MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know whether the Government are aware that plumbago is now being brought down by an outside contractor?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): It is quite possible.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know whether the Government are aware that year before the last, a Travancorean was supplying plumbago to the workshops which is now being done by an outsider?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): It may be so.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Then may I know why in the face of the existence of Travancoreans who are prepared to supply plumbago for the lowest rate, preference has been given to an outsider?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): It depends upon the quality as well as the price offered.

Water-tax and house-tax in Trivandrum town.

9. *MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the rate at which and the date from which water-tax is collected from houses in the Trivandrum town;

(*b*) whether the water-tax will be collected from houses which are vacant;

(*c*) whether remission of water-tax and house-tax cannot be granted to vacant houses which are intended to be let out but are not actually let out; and

(*d*) the number of applications from the people of various localities for constructing fountains on by-lanes, the number sactioned, and the number rejected, with reasons for the same?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) From 1-1-1111 M. E., at the rate of three per cent of the net rental value of buildings.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Yes. (Under Sections 73 and 93 of the Travancore Municipal Regulation).

(*d*) No separate list is being maintained of the applications for erecting stand posts in by-lanes. From the available statistics it is seen that 35 applications were received, of which 18 were complied with. Eight applications were rejected; six for the reason that they did not satisfy the conditions mentioned in paragraph 24 of the printed report on the Willingdon Water Works and two because they related to private lanes. Of the remaining nine applications, three relate to the area under the second stage works now in progress, and one has already been sanctioned but is awaiting execution. The remaining five applications are pending consideration.

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MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): In answer to part (*b*) may I know whether the Government are aware that the collection of water-tax is causing hardship to the people?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes, but they can get refund or remission by applying for it in proper time.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know how many applications were submitted for remission and how many granted last year?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I claim notice.

The College for Women.

10 ***MR. R. SIVARAMAN NAIR** (*Tiruvalla II*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the number of students in each class in His Highness the Maha Raja's College for Women;

(*b*) the number of students in the History Section in the Junior Intermediate, Senior Intermediate, Junior B. A. and Senior B. A. classes; and

(*c*) the number of students in the Botany section in each class?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*):

	Junior Intermediate Class.	Senior Intermediate Class.	Junior B. A. Class.	Senior B. A. Class.
(*a*)	99	74	6	15
(*b*)	26	19	6	15
(*c*)	47	30	...	...

MR. R. SIVARAMAN NAIR (*Tiruvalla II*): In answer to part (*b*) may I know the number of applications received for admission?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): The number varies from year to year. There were 7 applicants this year and 6 of them were admitted.

MR. R. SIVARAMAN NAIR (*Tiruvalla II*): May I know whether any selection was made from among these applications?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): Sir, I have just said that there were 7 applicants and 6 of them were given admission.

MR. R. SIVARAMAN NAIR (*Tiruvalla II*): May I know whether there was sufficient room in the Arts College to admit these students?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): Yes, Sir.

MR. R. SIVARAMAN NAIR (*Tiruvalla II*): May I know whether they have any objection in closing the History section of the Women's College?

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